## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Christopher Stephen BARGE et al.

Serial No. NEW

GROUP UNASSIGNED

Filed October 17, 2001

Examiner UNASSIGNED

FRAME AND LOADING APPARATUS FOR GROUPS OF BATTERY PLATES

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The above amendments are submitted prior to examination of the above-referenced application.

## IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, before line 2, insert the following:

-- CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This is the 35 USC 371 national stage of International application PCT/GB97/01176 filed on May 1, 1997, which designated the United States of America.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION --;

Page 1, between lines 4 and 5, insert the following heading:

--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--.

## BARGE et al. S.N. NEW

Page 2, before line 1, insert the following heading: --SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--.

Page 5, between lines 8 and 9, insert the following heading:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--.

Page 6, between lines 3 and 4, insert the following heading:

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION--.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

Ву

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October 17, 2001